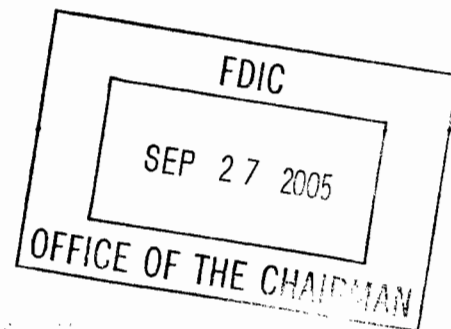


MAHOPAC
NATIONAL BANK
A Tompkins Community Bank

September 21, 2005

Donald E. Powell
 Chairman
 FDIC
 550 17th St., NW
 Room MB-6028
 Washington, DC 20429



**Re: Comment on Wal-Mart Application for FDIC Coverage
 of Industrial Loan Company**

Dear Chairman Powell:

We urge the FDIC to turn down the referenced application from Wal-Mart. In light of Wal-Mart's well-publicized efforts to obtain banking powers to use in their stores, your approval would open the door to an unprecedented mixing of banking and commerce. Given the proven marketing powers and strong distribution system, it would also result in the demise of great numbers of community banks throughout the U.S.

The track record of Wal-Mart in using its size to, ultimately, put out of business thousands of small retailers, should induce the FDIC to move very carefully prior to handing the company de facto power to enter the banking business, where the company's success could mean significant damage to the nation's banking system, and its small business and retail clients.

Sincerely,

Stephen S. Romaine
 President & CEO

SSR;pmw

